



WORKSHOP AND REGULAR COUNCIL AGENDA

Fire Hall - 111 D Street

September 17, 2025, at 6:00 PM

Workshop 6:00 PM – Commissioner Raines with Grays Harbor County and Jeff Zenk with Office of Chehalis Basin

Regular Council Meeting 7:00 PM

1. FLAG SALUTE - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Claims Vouchers

B. Meeting Minutes – August 20, 2025

5. COUNCIL COMMENTS

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Auditing

B. Finance

C. Parks

D. Public Safety

E. Public Works

7. CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS

A. Clerk

B. Police Chief Report

C. Fire Chief Report

D. Building Inspector

8. MAYOR'S REPORT - (Sewer Recap)

9. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION

1. Parcel North of 1020 Distler Street – Bill Sidor

2. Surplus City Property 1312 First Street – Bill Sidor

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Limited to subjects on the agenda

11. NEW BUSINESS – COUNCIL ACTION

1. Vote to approve 1312 First Street as Surplus Property

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

13. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Public comments may be made in-person during the meeting. If unable to attend, please submit comments to mayor@cosmopoliswa.gov by noon on the meeting day.

If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, you may join with the following Zoom Information

Webinar ID: 853 0310 4531 Passcode: 478857

Phone: (253) 215-8782

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85303104531?pwd=WtLX9FZw6YDBjCKHaYXOfCmSmH8T0n.1>



MEETING MINUTES FOR WORKSHOP AND REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

**Fire Hall - 111 D Street
August 20th, 2025 at 5:00 PM**

WORKSHOP

Bobbak Talebi and Peter Lyon with Department of Ecology gave Cosmo Fibers update.

FLAG SALUTE - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

Mayor Springer calls the meeting to order; Clerk Grove takes Roll Call.

PRESENT: Councilmember Kim Skinner, Councilmember Mark Collett, Councilmember Sue Darcy, Councilmember Justin Spargo

ABSENT: Councilmember Winn

Councilmember Spargo motioned to excuse Councilmember Winn's absence, as he is out of the Country. Councilmember Skinner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Skinner motioned to approve the agenda; Councilmember Darcy seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Skinner motioned to approve the consent agenda; Councilmember Collett seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

No comments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Councilmember Spargo motioned to Adjourn the meeting; Councilmember Collett seconded.
Meeting adjourned at 8:39PM.**

DRAFT

Auditing – Councilmember Darcy reported she reviewed vouchers.

Finance – No report.

Parks – Councilmember Spargo reports at the Lion’s Club playground, the large climbing toy with the slides will be removed. Working on trying to get a grant in October for new equipment.

Public Safety – Councilmember Skinner reports Officer Bailey will be going to a different agency at the end of this month, gave special thanks to his dedication and work for the city. We will be working on moving forward to hiring a lateral officer soon. Two of the police vehicles have successfully been surplused and the last 2 fire vehicles will be getting surplused as well. The resident program at the Fire Dept. will continue moving forward.

Public Works – Councilmember Darcy reports they will be having a meeting on the water meter boxes and hydrant flushing will be happening soon.

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS

Clerk– Clerk Grove gave an update stating our Budget Calendar is on track that we have received from our CPA and starting in October there will be 2 Council Meetings per month. The first Wednesday of the month will be budget meetings, and the third Wednesday will be regular council.

Police Chief Report – Chief Layman reports there have been 305 incidents since the last meeting. Officer Bailey has accepted a position with the Aberdeen Police Department; he will begin September 1st. Special thanks to Officer Bailey for his time and dedication serving our community. Wishes him the best. All three vehicles we requested surplus on have been sold. Lt. Jeff Weiss spoke for Aberdeen on incidents handled during “afterhours”.

Fire Chief Report – Chief Coker reports there have been 21 calls for service since the last meeting. We have 1 firefighter in Academy that will be finishing towards the end of the month. Thank you to the city and citizens for National Night out, the fire department attended with engine 21 and personnel. Chief Coker adds he is honored to be able to serve this community as the new Fire Chief. Thanked Nick Falley for all the hard work he has put into the Department in the past three years. There will be Life Flight training happening August 25th at 6pm at the Cosmopolis Lions Park. Our department alongside Grays Harbor/Pacific County Fire District will be conducting training with our partners at Life Flight Network. Any citizens in the area at the time please keep safe distance from the training area.

Building Inspector – Bill Sidor reports he has been busy with Code Enforcement.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Springer reports Kerry Barr, our clerk/treasurer, has resigned. Wishes her well and says we will be posting for a part-time Clerk/Treasurer position soon. Mayor introduces the new Superintendent/Principal of the Cosmopolis Elementary School, Jennifer Sikes. Jennifer introduces herself and gives an update on the progress on the building and the upcoming school year. Mayor gives a reminder that City Hall’s new schedule begins at the end of this week, City Hall will now be closed on Fridays. National Night Out was held on August 5th, she was very happy with the turnout of about 100 people. There was potluck supper, live music, and both the Police and Fire Chief were in attendance. Coming up in September there will be an informational meeting at the Fire Hall, regarding upcoming sewer contract and negotiations, she encourages everyone to attend. The Volunteer Pancake Breakfast and

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Festival in the Park is happening September 7th, breakfast starts at 8am with the festival beginning at 11. We will have live music, vendors, food options and a special kid's corner with animals and a bouncy house. Mayor Springer adds one last reminder of the Public Hearing with the Department of Ecology on September 9th at Grays Harbor College.

NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION

1. **Appointment of Jacob Coker as Fire Chief** – Councilmember Collett motioned to approve the appointment of Mr. Coker as Fire Chief, Councilmember Skinner seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Springer swore in Mr. Coker.

2. **Appointment of Darrin King to Civil Service Commission** – Councilmember Skinner motioned to approve the appointment of Mr. King to the Civil Service Commission, Councilmember Collett seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Springer swore in Mr. King.

3. **Public Hearing for the vacation of “J” street** – The public hearing was opened for discussion. Discussion between Council, Bill Sidor, and Kellie Daniels of the Daniels Group. The public hearing was closed.
4. **Update on the Daniels Project** – Bill Sidor gave an update that he is waiting on a response from the Army Core of Engineers to determine if a 408 was required. Further discussion involving the property team, Council, and Bill Sidor.
5. **Surplus of 1312 First Street City Property** – Bill Sidor presented the possibility of surplus for the property adjacent to City Hall. There will have to be a property line adjustment and survey prior to the sale.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No comments.

NEW BUSINESS – COUNCIL ACTION

1. Councilmember Skinner motioned to approve the vacation of “J” street without stipulations, Councilmember Collett seconded.

Motioned passed unanimously.

2. Councilmember Spargo motioned to table the vote until further info is gathered, Councilmember Collett seconded.

Vote tabled.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Several citizens had comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilmember Collett thanked Officer Bailey for his service to the city.



COSMOPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

PO Box 478 / 1312 First Street Cosmopolis, WA. 98537

Heath Layman, *Chief of Police*

City Council Meeting 09/17/2025

Cosmopolis Police had 127 incidents since the last report (08/18/2025 through 09/14/2025).

It was a busy month with several significant calls for service that could have been very critical.

Of note was an incident at a business where threats were made and a firearm was displayed. This occurred during our "afterhours" service and APD had a strong response and investigated the incident, bringing it to a peaceful conclusion and being professionally handled.

A road rage incident entered our community from US 101, also during our "afterhours" service. APD responded again, located a suspect vehicle, and attempted to stop and investigate which resulted in a short pursuit and a 28-year-old male suspect being arrested for DUI, DWLS, Eluding, and more.

An arrest was made in our community by GHCSO regarding crimes against children.

See APD report re number of incidents that APD handled during "afterhours".

Respectfully,

Chief Layman

"A Community Partnership"



COSMOPOLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT

PO Box 2007 / 111 D Street Cosmopolis, WA. 98537

Jacob Coker, Fire Chief

City Council Report 09/17/2025

Calls for service

Cosmopolis Fire Department has had 16 calls for service since the last council meeting; we are currently at 252 calls for service for the year 2025.

Residency Program

We have filled the second residency position; still working on filling the third position.

New Members

We have started the onboarding process with 3 new members and will be completing training, we are excited to have them onboard.

Life Flight training (rescheduled)

Last month we had a scheduled Life Flight training, we were able to do part of the training but due to weather we were unable to launch the helicopter to the training area.

Life Flight training has been Rescheduled for September 22nd, 2025 @ 06:00 PM at the Cosmopolis Lions Club, Cosmopolis Fire Department along with Grays Harbor/Pacific County Fire District #15 will be conducting an Air transport training with our partners at Life Flight Network. I ask for the citizens in the area to keep a safe distance from the training area for safety precautions.

Thank you,

Jacob Coker, Fire Chief

"A Community Partnership"



THE LONG-TERM CHEHALIS BASIN STRATEGY

Creating a safer, more resilient future for people and aquatic life

Cosmopolis City Council
September 17, 2025
Jeff Zenk, Office of Chehalis Basin



ABOUT THE CHEHALIS BASIN

- 2nd biggest basin in WA state
- Two Tribes, four population centers
- Ecologic and economic importance
- Salmon runs have been in dramatic decline
- Floods have been getting bigger and more frequent



Photo Credit: WA Dept of Ecology



Photo Credit: The Chronicle

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

The floods of **2007** and **2009** caused nearly \$1B in damages, shut down entire segments of I-5, and put communities' health and safety at risk.

Pre-2007

Local experts build a strong scientific foundation for flood and habitat work

2008

Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority is created

2012

Gov. Gregoire launches Basin-wide flood and habitat plan

2016

The **Chehalis Basin Board** and the **Office of Chehalis Basin** created

2017

Investments begin

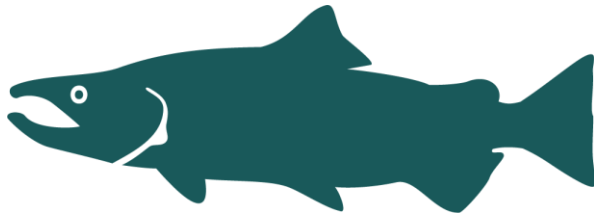
ABOUT THE CHEHALIS BASIN BOARD

- An independent, diverse group of community leaders representing Tribes, local governments, agricultural, economic, and environmental interests, and state agencies
- Develops and provides long-term oversight of the **Chehalis Basin Strategy**, an action plan of near-term investments and long-range planning to reduce flood-related damage and restore aquatic life throughout the Chehalis River basin
- Collaborative, integrated approach

ABOUT THE OFFICE OF CHEHALIS BASIN

- The focal point for implementation of the Chehalis Basin Strategy – administering state funds, leading a coalition of partners, and supporting the Board in their process.
- Collaborates with a wide array of partners representing state agencies, local governments, Tribes, conservation districts, non-profit organizations, and basin residents.

WHAT WE DO TOGETHER



Work with landowners to slow harmful erosion and restore habitats for salmon and other aquatic life



Help residents and communities protect homes and businesses from flood damage




Prepare the region and its future generations for more frequent major and catastrophic flooding



In less than a decade, the Chehalis Basin Board and Office of Chehalis Basin have invested in more than 140 projects, protecting nearly 300 acres of habitat and over 200 homes and businesses, on time and on budget.

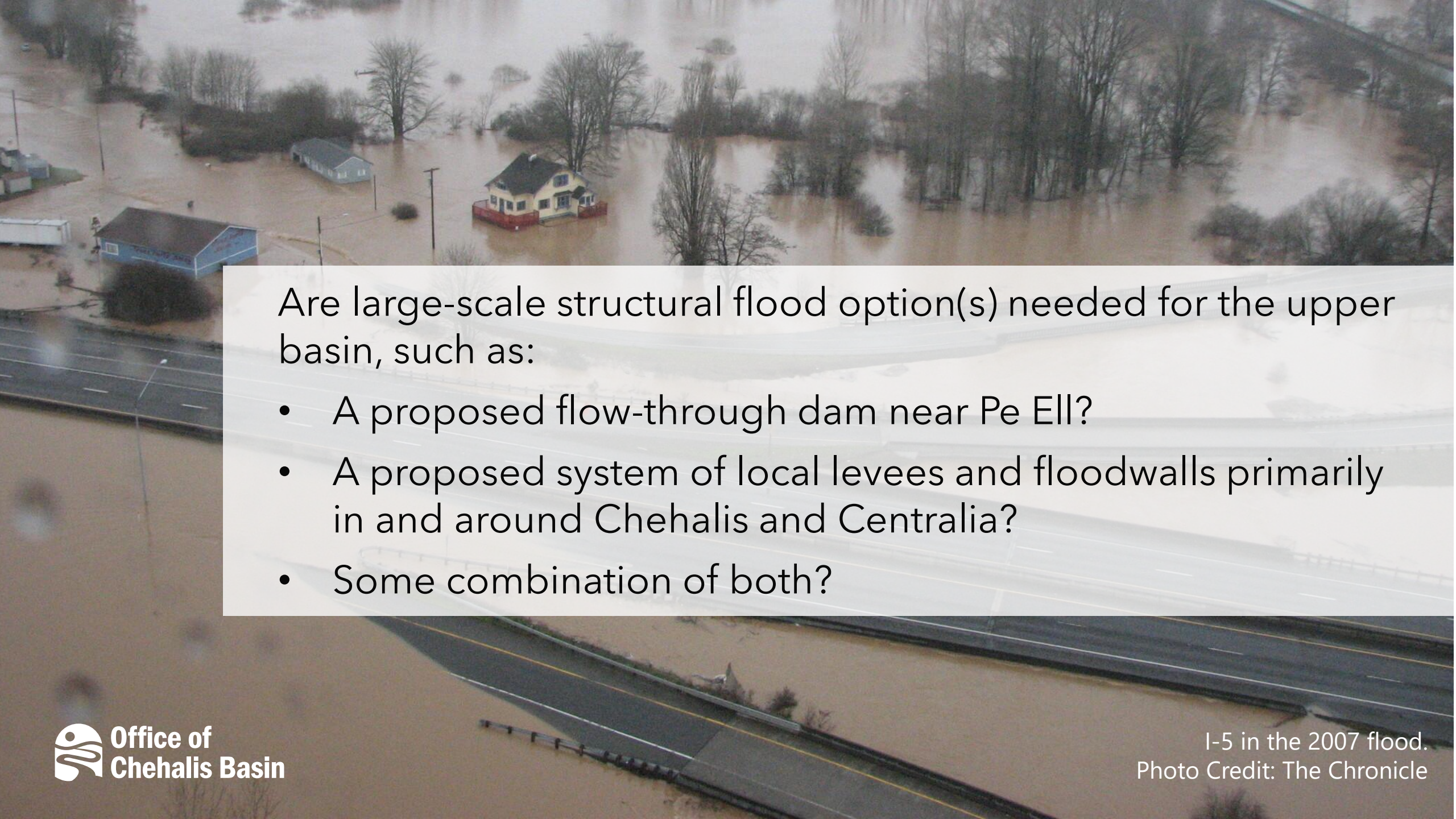




I-5 in the 2007 flood.
Photo Credit: The Chronicle

Now through 2026, the Chehalis Basin Board is weighing longer-term options to protect people and aquatic life for decades to come.

Seeking answers to several questions, including:
How much should be invested in aquatic restoration
across the basin for the next 30 years?

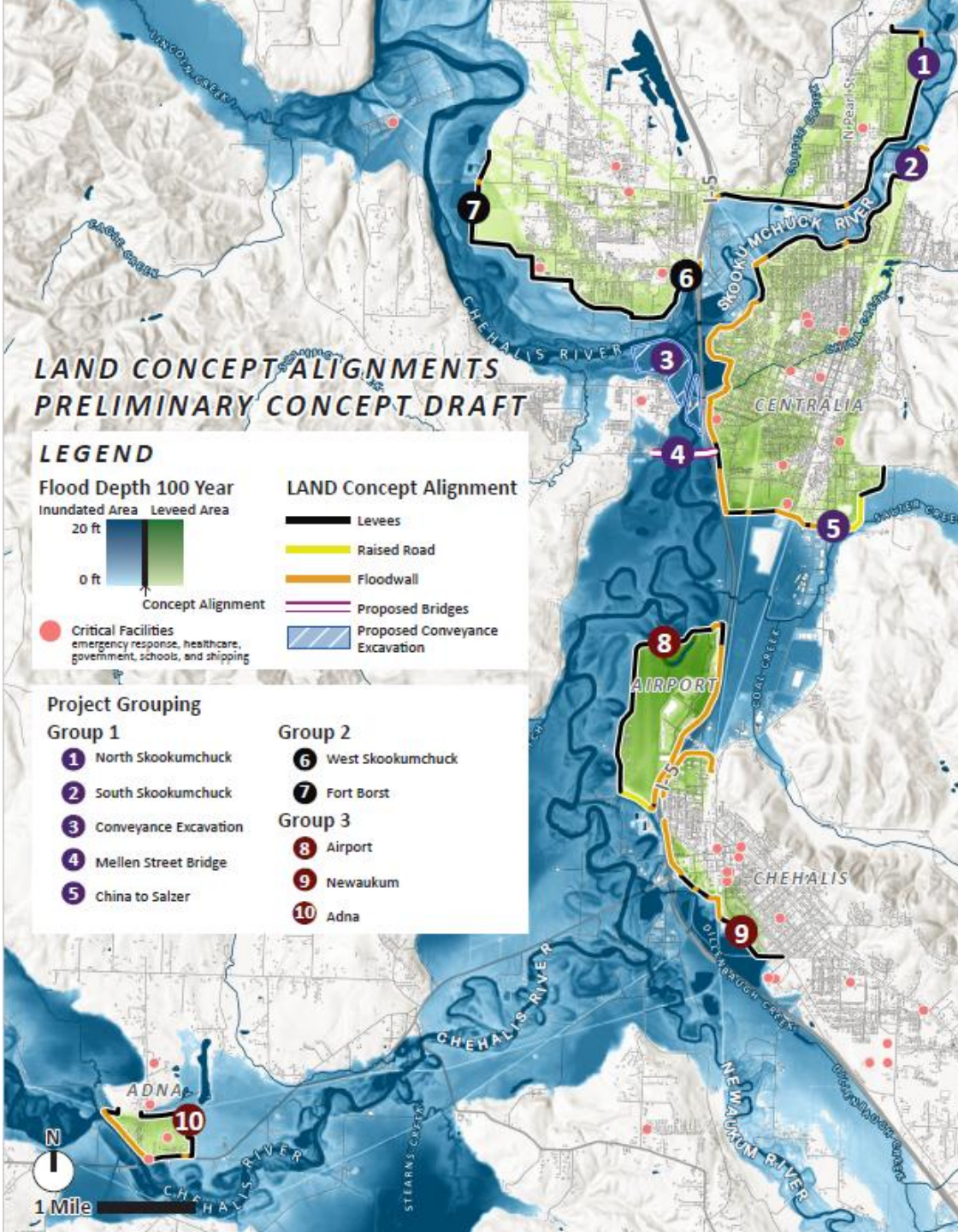


Are large-scale structural flood option(s) needed for the upper basin, such as:

- A proposed flow-through dam near Pe Ell?
- A proposed system of local levees and floodwalls primarily in and around Chehalis and Centralia?
- Some combination of both?



Flow-through dam near Pe Ell
(Proposed by the Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District)



Proposed levee system

(also known as the Local Actions Non-Dam "LAND" Alternative)



What is the best pathway for the Skookumchuck Dam going forward?

In the lower basin, we'll continue supporting the Aberdeen-Hoquiam Flood Protection Project and along with other local projects and programs to reduce flood risk and flood damages.



In June 2025, the Board identified a preliminary suite of six long-term strategy options for additional technical analysis through the end of the year.

Current suite of long-term options under consideration (June 2025)

Long-term Options	Proposed new investments			Existing programs to be scaled up or maintained						
	Proposed Flow-through Dam & Airport Levee	Proposed Levee System (LAND)	Skookumchuck Dam	Basin-wide Aquatic Restoration (ASRP)	Floodproofing, Elevation & Acquisition	Flood Authority local projects	Flood Warning System	Floodplain Mgt, Land Use, & Transportation Planning	Erosion Management	Multi-Benefit Acquisition
Option A	✓	✓ (Group 1*)	Modify	✓++	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Option B	✓	✓ (Group 1**)	Remove	✓++	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Option C				✓	✓++	✓++	✓+	✓	✓	✓
Option D		✓++ (Groups 1-3)	Remove	✓	✓+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Option E		✓++ (Groups 1-3)		✓++	✓+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Option F		✓+ (Group 1 + Airport Levee)		✓	✓++	✓++	✓+	✓	✓	✓

KEY:



Included

✓+ or ✓++

Included with a greater level of investment/implementation



Not built or no action

Modify or Remove

Skookumchuck Dam only

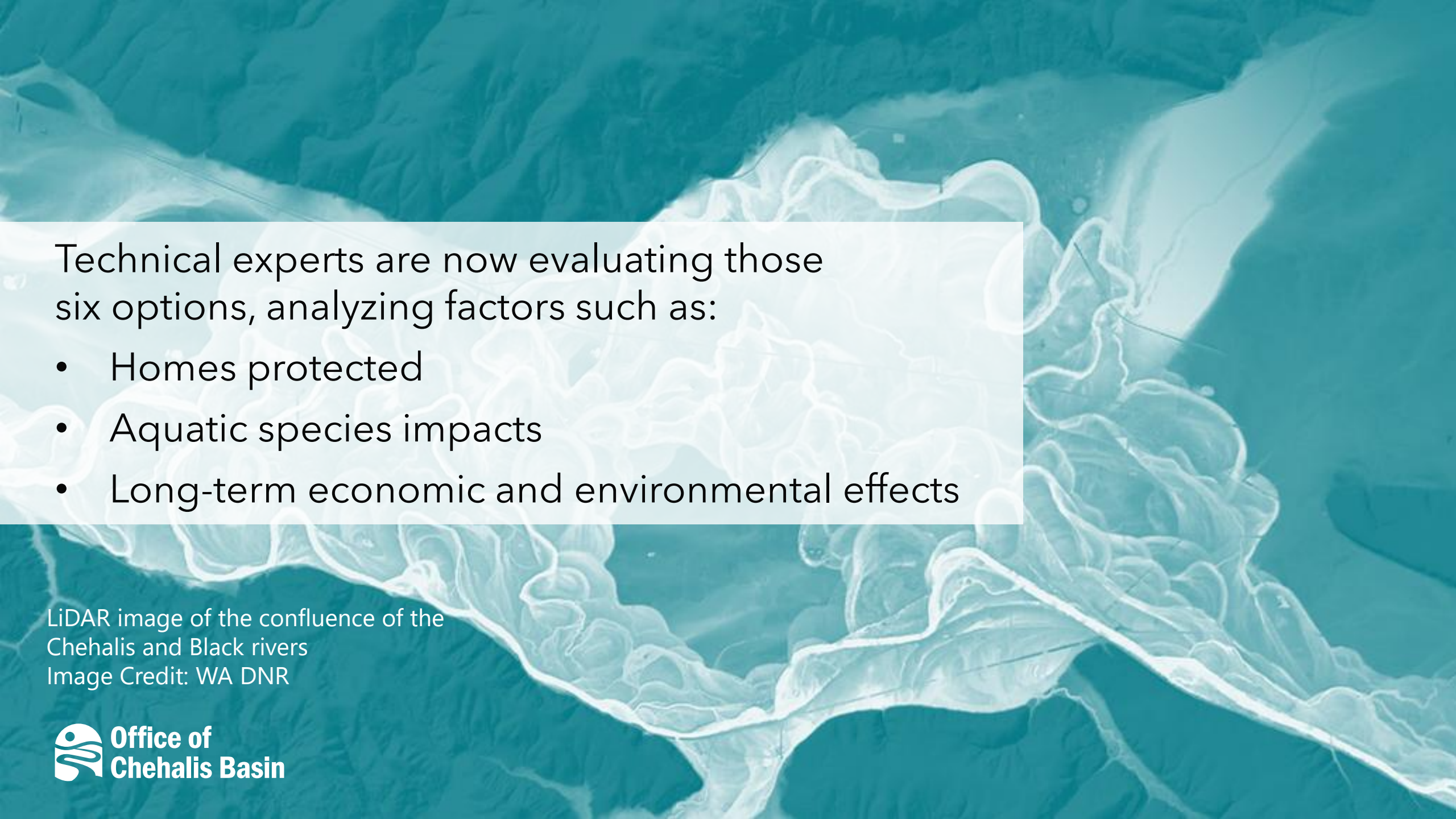
Group 1: North Skookumchuck, South Skookumchuck, Improved Chehalis River Conveyance, Mellen Street Bridge Replacement, and China to Salzer Creek

Group 2: West Skookumchuck, Fort Borst

Group 3: Airport, Newaukum, Adna

*North & South Skookumchuck only


**North & South Skookumchuck and China-Salzer only, China Creek improvements

A LiDAR image of the confluence of the Chehalis and Black rivers, showing the intricate patterns of the river channels and surrounding terrain in shades of teal and white.

Technical experts are now evaluating those six options, analyzing factors such as:

- Homes protected
- Aquatic species impacts
- Long-term economic and environmental effects

LiDAR image of the confluence of the
Chehalis and Black rivers
Image Credit: WA DNR

A large group of people, mostly men, are gathered in a room for a community workshop. They are seated at long tables, some looking at papers or maps, others talking in small groups. In the background, there are flipcharts with handwritten notes and a sign that says "WIFI". The room has a carpeted floor and overhead lights.

The Board also wants to hear from local governments, basin partners, and community members on what they hope to see for the future of the basin.

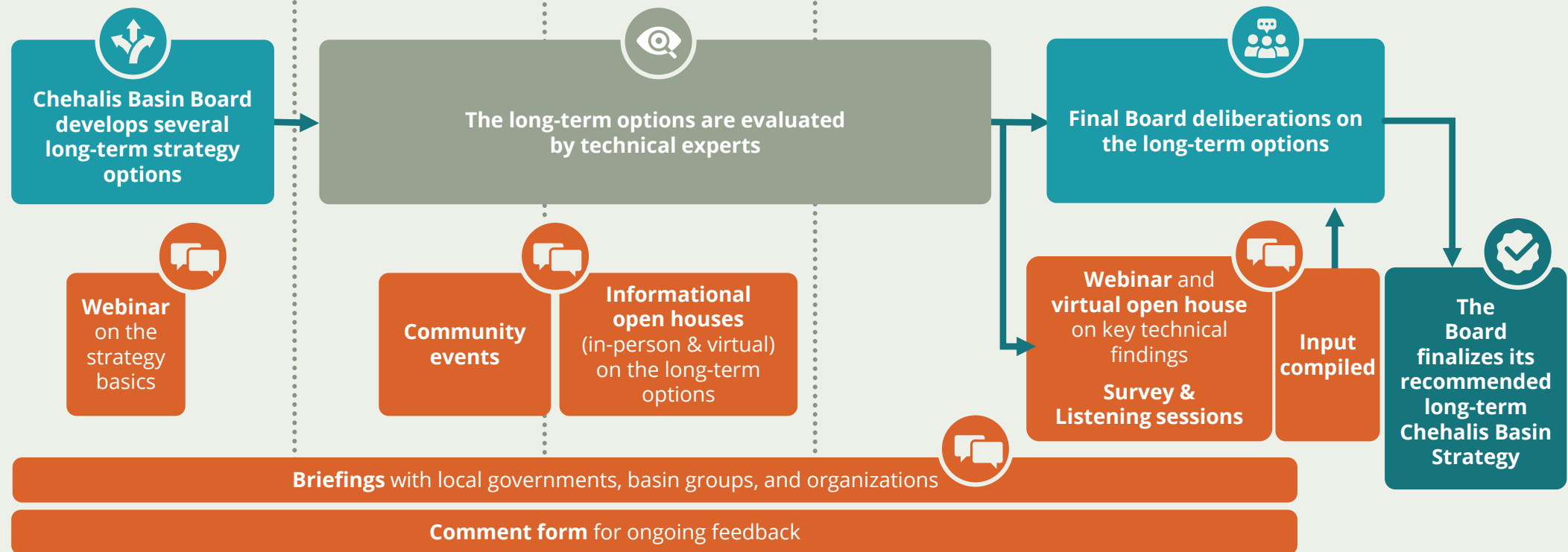
2025

Spring

Summer

Fall

2026



2025

Spring



Chehalis Basin Board develops several long-term strategy options



Webinar on the strategy basics

Summer

Fall



The long-term options are evaluated by technical experts



Community events

Informational open houses
(in-person & virtual) on the long-term options

2026

Informational open houses (5-7:30pm):

- Sept 25: Veterans Memorial Museum
- Oct 8: Montesano City Hall

Online open house:

- Sept 8 - Oct 31
- For those who can't attend in-person
- openhouse.officeofchehalisbasin.com

Briefings with local governments, basin groups, and organizations


Comment form for ongoing feedback



- What do you want the Board to know or consider as it weighs the long-term options for the basin?
- How can we best reach Cosmopolis residents to engage them in this process?

- Learn more and share feedback:
www.officeofchehalisbasin.com/LTS
- Follow us on Instagram, Facebook, YouTube:
@officeofchehalisbasin





The Chehalis River.
Photo Credit: OCB

Thank you

Jeff Zenk
Director, Office of Chehalis Basin
Jeff.Zenk@ecy.wa.gov



Office of
Chehalis Basin

County Administrator

City of Cosmopolis
September 17th, 2025



Agenda



- Sam Intro
- Exceptional Organization



Sam Intro



Life Education Profession

Blueberries



Picked 2000 pounds
first summer in
America
\$160

FBLA
Washington
State
President









Personal Mission Statement



*Help others be **fearlessly**
inquisitive, **kind and compassionate**
while **performing their very best** and
leading **fulfilling & meaningful** lives.*



Exceptional Organization

Proposal – 2015

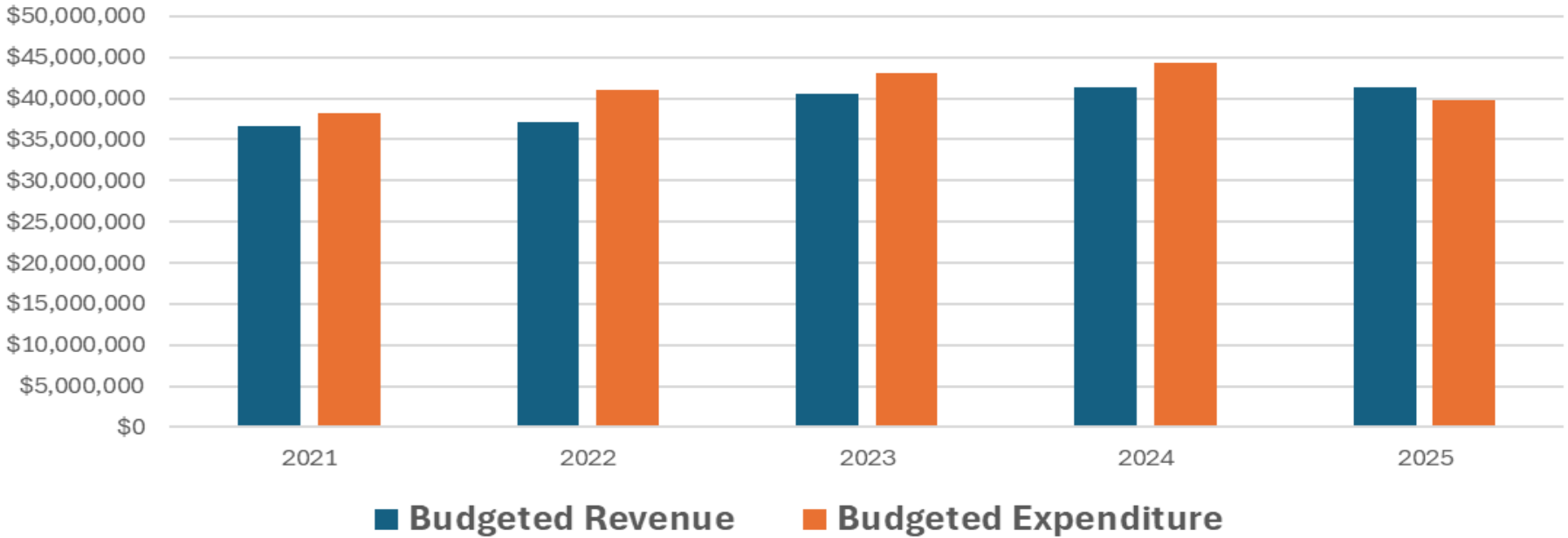


*“The County currently operates without a comprehensive set of established goals and priorities. Based upon interviews with each Commissioner, this has resulted in a **reactive atmosphere** where the **budget drives policy decisions**, versus a proactive environment where policy and direction drive the budget. Chronic budget shortfalls have resulted in **downsizing, competition between departments** and **negative morale** amongst County staff.”* – Shelli Hopsecger



First Budget with No Deficit Spending

2021-2025 General Fund Budgeted Revenue vs. Expenditure





Back to Basics

1. Formed a cabinet
2. Started department head meetings
3. Began 360^o performance evaluations
4. Stop hemorrhaging spend
5. Address need for perfection

More to do



- Target-Based Budgeting
- Standardize, Centralize, Consolidate, Optimize
- Develop leadership capability and capacity
- Manage staff performance
- Continue developing strategic plan

We can do it!



American
exceptionalism



